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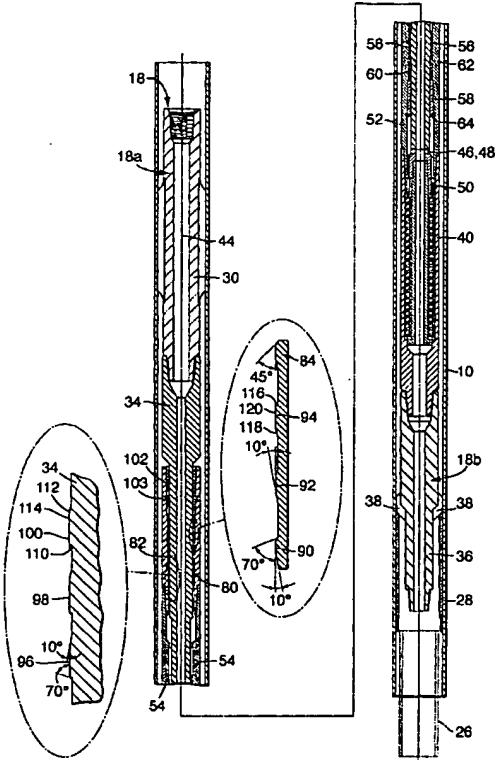
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(54) Title: DOWNHOLE SWIVEL JOINT ASSEMBLY AND METHOD OF USING SAID SWIVEL JOINT ASSEMBLY

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(57) Abstract: A downhole swivel joint assembly (18) comprised an upper component (18a) and a lower component (18b). The components may assume either of two stable positions relative to each other, namely an unactivated configuration (as shown in Figure 2) in which the components are rotationally fast with each other by virtue of the inter-engagement of splines (54) of the lower component with splines (56) of the upper component and an activated configuration in which the respective splines are disengaged so that the upper and lower components can rotate relative to each other. In the activated configuration the upper component is supported relative to the lower component on a ball bearing pack (42). Movement of the components between the activated and unactivated configurations is controlled by a resiliently deformable latch member (84) which is C-shaped in transverse cross-section. The latch member has an internal profile which co-operates with an external profile provided on the upper component mandrel (34) to allow the upper and lower components to snap between the activated and unactivated configurations.



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